

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
(ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿ
Office of
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



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E-office File No. KFD/HoFF/A5-4(GFL)/90/2019-FC

E-161164

Date 15-02-2021

16

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department
M.S. Building, Bengaluru-560 001

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 0.98 hectare of forest land in Sy No. 79/P1 Sonnenahalli Village, Hesarughatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantanarsapur) to Yelahanka Transmission line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division) in favour of Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II, Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru.

Proposal No: FP/KA/TRANS/42334/2019 [FORM-A]

- Ref:**
1. Online Proposal [FORM-A PART-I] dated 22-11-2019 (re-submitted) of the Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II, Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru (*Authorised Applicant*) r/w uploading of Acknowledgement online on 23-12-2019 for having delivered hard copy of proposal to jurisdictional DCF & DC
 2. This office online communication dated 27-12-2019 to Deputy Conservators of Forests, Bengaluru Urban/ Bengaluru Rural/Tumkur Divisions for further processing
 3. Online submission of PART-II by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Rural Division on dated 01-01-2020 [Letter No. A4/DCF/Ben.Ru.Div/GL-2034/2020-21 dated 20-08-2020]
 4. Online submission of PART-II by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban Division on dated 05-08-2020 [Letter No. A7/Land/Lease/PG/CR-74/2019-20 dated 06-08-2020]
 5. Online submission of PART-II by Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakur Division on dated 10-12-2020 [Letter No. A5(A2)]

Land/FC/CR-179/2020-21 dated 11-12-2020]

6. Online submission of PART-III by Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle on 11-01-2020 [Letter No. A8/Land/GL-614/2019-20 dated 22-12-2020]

7. Online submission of PART-III by Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Circle on 11-01-2021 [Letter No. A11/Bhoomi/CR-73/2020-21 dated 04-01-2021]

1. The Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II, Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru [USER AGENCY] vide Ref (1) has submitted an online proposal [FORM-A PART-I] through FC Web Portal seeking approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.98 hectare of forest land in Sy No. 79/P1 Sonnenahalli Village, Hesarughatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantanarsapur) to Yelahanka Transmission line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division). After acceptance of the proposal by Nodal Officer (FCA), the User Agency has delivered the hard copies of the proposal to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban/ Bengaluru Rural/Tumkur Divisions and Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban/ Bengaluru Rural/Tumkur District and has uploaded the Acknowledgment on FC web portal on 23-12-2019. Accordingly, an online communication was made by Nodal Officer (FCA) vide Ref (2) to the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests for further processing of the proposal under FC Act.

2. **Location details and Component-wise break up:** Location details and Component-wise breakup of forest land proposed for diversion are given below.

District, Taluk, Hobli	Village	Sy No.	Project Component	Forest extent proposed for diversion (ha)	Legal status of land
Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru North (Additional) Taluk, Hesarughatta-2 Hobli	Sonnenahalli	79/P1	400 KV DC Transmission Line [213 mtr length and 46 meter wide]	0.98	Deemed Forest
Total				0.98	

3. **DCF, Bangalore Rural Division Report:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Rural Division vide Ref (3) has reported that the site has been inspected by the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Doddaballapura Sub-division and Range Forest Officer, Nelamagala Range on 13-08-2020 and as per their reports, the said above project (Transmission line) does not passes through any Forest land in the Bengaluru Rural Division.

4. **DCF, Bangalore Urban Division Report:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban Division has inspected the site on 05-02-2020 and vide Ref (4)

has submitted his Site Inspection Report along with recommendation in PART-II to Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Circle.

5. **DCF, Tumkur Division Report:** The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumkur Division vide Ref (5) has reported that the site has been inspected by the Range Forest Officers of the Tumakur Range and Kortagere Range and Assistant Conservator of Forests of the Tumakur Sub-division and Madugiri Sub-division, as per their reports, the said project (Transmission line) does not passes through any Forest land in the Tumakur Division.

The main features of the proposal based on the Deputy Conservator of Forests reports r/w reports of Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru and Hassan Circles and that of ICT Centre of Forest Department are summarized below.

- a. The forest land proposed for diversion is not prone to soil erosion.
- b. The forest land proposed for diversion is in general landscape of Eco-class III (Tropical Thorn Forests) with up to 10% canopy density (Open Forest).
- c. As per Item 4(ii) of PART-II, there are 114 trees (Cassia fistula, Diospyros melanoxylon, Syzyguim cumini, Azadiractha indica, Acacia auriculiformis, Samanea saman and Delonix regia) *in different* girth classes on the forest land proposed for diversion.
- d. There are no major wild animal species reported in and around the project area.
- e. There are no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna reported in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.
- f. The forest land proposed for diversion does not form part of any National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc.
- g. The forest land proposed for diversion is not located within Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of any Protected Area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- h. There are no National Park/ Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere Reserve/ Tiger Reserve/ Elephant Corridor/ Wildlife Migration Corridor, etc., within one kilometre of the forest land proposed for diversion.
- i. There are no Protected/ Archaeological/ Heritage sites or Defence establishments or important monuments in the area.
- j. There is no violation reported under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- k. The requirement of forest land for the project is the bare minimum and unavoidable.

6. **CCF, Hassan Circle Report:** The Chief Conservator of Forests, Hassan Circle has not inspected the site personally. However, agreeing with the report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru, that the said above project (Transmission line) does not pass through any Forest land in the Tumakuru Division/ Hassan Circle and the same is forwarded to this office vide Ref (6).
7. **CCF, Bengaluru Circle Report:** The Chief Conservator of Forests, Bangalore Circle has not inspected the site personally. However, agreeing with the recommendation of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban Division, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Circle has also recommended the proposal. Specific comments of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Circle are mentioned in PART-III of the proposal cited at Ref (7) above.
8. **Net Present Value (NPV):** The User Agency is required to pay the Net Present Value (NPV) of forest land proposed for diversion as per Para 3.1 to 3.4 of the latest FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019. **The User Agency has submitted an Undertaking to pay the charges towards Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land proposed for diversion.**
9. **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** In accordance with the provisions of para 2.5 (i)(a) of the FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019, the Compensatory Afforestation can be raised and maintained at the cost of User Agency on degraded forest land twice in extent of the forest area proposed for diversion in the cases of laying of transmission lines. **The User Agency has submitted an Undertaking to pay the Compensatory Afforestation charges.**
10. **Status of RoFR compliance:** In order to meet the requirement of the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights Act, 2006 and Rules 2008 and the FC Guidelines, the User Agency has not obtained/ furnished the (copy of) requisite **RoFR Certificate in FORM-I (for Linear projects)** issued by the jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as per Annexure II of the FC Guidelines communicated by Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, New Delhi vide F.No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28-03-2019. **The User Agency has not submitted copy of such certificate and is being informed once again to obtain the said certificate in prescribed format and submit a copy.**

In the light of the facts stated above, it is requested to move the proposal with the Government of India for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 0.98 hectare of forest land in Sy No. 79/P1 Sonnenahalli Village,

Hesarughatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantanarsapur) to Yelahanka Transmission line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division) in favour of Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II, Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru for a period of 20 years subject to submission of RoFR Compliance Certificate in FORM-I (for Linear Projects) and further subject to the conditions appended in Annexure 'A'.

The hard copy of the proposal along with the relevant documents in 3 sets is submitted herewith for further needful. The present status (Time line) of the proposal obtained from the web-portal is also appended for necessary action.

Yours faithfully

(Sanjai Mohan, IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

Copy to the:

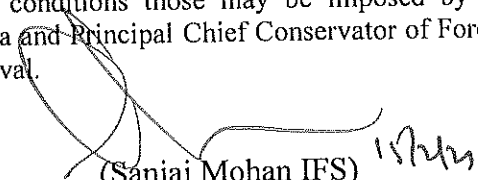
1. Chief Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru and Hassan Circles for information.
2. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural and Tumakuru Divisions for information.
3. Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (Southern Region Transmission System - II (SRTS-II), Regional Headquarters, Near RTO Office, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru – 560 064 for information and **with a request to obtain and submit the RoFR Compliance Certificate in FORM-I from jurisdictional Deputy Commissioner as mentioned above at the earliest.**

o/c

16-2-2021

ANNEXURE 'A'

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged and it shall continue to be forest land.
2. The User Agency shall pay the applicable Net Present Value (NPV), Compensatory, Plantation cost of extraction of trees, land lease rent and any other levies as per the conditions of approval.
3. The User Agency shall demarcate the lease area in the manner specified at the time of approval at its own cost.
4. The lessee shall not sub-lease, mortgage & hypothecate the forest area.
5. The Lessee shall provide signages in appropriate dimensions and nature on both sides of the canal within forest limits for sensitisation of general public towards the forest, wildlife and environmental issues in consultation with the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests.
6. The leased out area should be used for the purpose for which it is granted. In case the land is not used for the stipulated purpose within two years or when it is no longer needed for the stipulated purpose, the area would stand resumed to the Forest Department.
7. No change in Land Use Plan on forest land shall be done except with prior approval of Government of India under FC Act 1980.
8. The application for renewal of the lease in the prescribed form and manner shall be submitted at least six months prior to the expiry of forest lease. In case no renewal is sought, the Lessee shall hand over the lease.
9. No residential or commercial buildings shall be permitted in the forest area proposed for diversion.
10. No crushing / breaking of stones or labour camp shall be allowed on forest land and all waste / debris generated shall be scientifically disposed off outside the forest area.
11. Any damage to forest area because of implementation of the proposal shall be compensated by the Lessee. The extent of damage shall be assessed by the jurisdictional Deputy Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests/ Chief Conservator of Forests.
12. The Lessee shall ensure that no avoidable harm is caused to the fauna and flora in and around the proposed area.
13. In case, any violation of the provisions of the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963 & Rules, 1969 or other relevant Acts/Rules is reported during the lease period, the lease will be liable for forfeiture under Section 82 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963. The Chief Conservator of Forests / Deputy Conservator of Forests concerned are authorized to take necessary action in this regard.
14. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to any other clearances necessary under the prevailing statutes.
15. The User Agency shall also abide by other conditions those may be imposed by the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) before or after the approval.


(Sanjai Mohan IFS)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)

PART – IV

(To be filled in by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

<p>Detailed opinion & specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks.</p> <p><i>(While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon.)</i></p>	<p>Recommended for moving the proposal with the Government of India for according 'in-principle' (Stage-I) approval for diversion of 0.98 hectare of forest land in Sy No. 79/P1 Sonnenahalli Village, Hesarughatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantanarsapur) to Yelahanka Transmission line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division) in favour of Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II, Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru for a period of 20 years subject to submission of RoFR Compliance Certificate in FORM-I (for Linear Projects) and further subject to the conditions appended in Annexure 'A'. [Proposal No: FP/KA/TRANS/42334/2019]</p>
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Signature:

Name:

(RAJIV RANJAN IFS)

Designation:

**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) and Nodal Office (FCA)**

(Official Seal)

Countersigned by :

Name:

(SANJAY MOHAN IFS)

Designation:

**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)**

(Official Seal)

N.D.O. No: 9/ /2020-21

Date: 16 -02-2021

